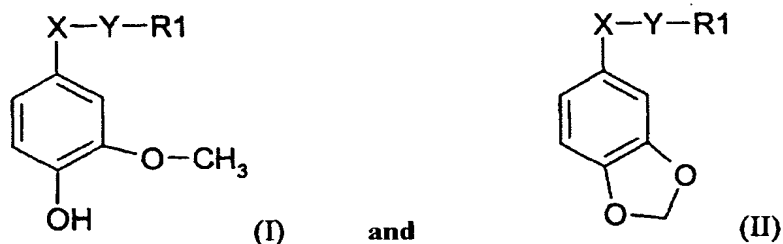


## AMENDED CLAIMS

received by the International Bureau on  
17 December 2003 (12.17.2003) original claims 1-8  
replaced by amended claims 1-8; 3 pages

5

1. The use of a vanilloid corresponding to either one  
of the following general formulae:



10

wherein

X represents a linear, saturated, monounsaturated or  
polyunsaturated, and substituted or unsubstituted  
15 C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl group;

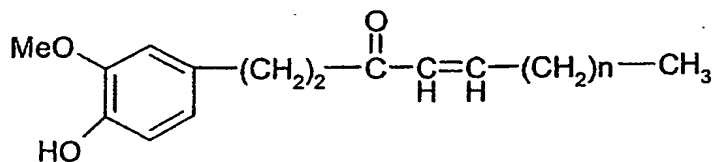
Y is chosen from the groups -C(O)N-, and -C(O)-;

R1 represents a linear, branched or cyclic chain,  
20 saturated, monounsaturated or polyunsaturated, and  
substituted or unsubstituted C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>24</sub> alkyl group;  
for the manufacture of a medicament intended to reduce,  
suppress or prevent snoring.

25 2. The use as claimed in claim 1, characterized in  
that the vanilloid is chosen from the group consisting  
of piperine, gingerols and shogaols, advantageously  
this includes one or more shogaols.

30 3. The use as claimed in claim 2, characterized in  
that the shogaol(s) correspond(s) to the general

formula (III):



(III)

in which n is equal to 1, 2, 4, 6 or 8, advantageously  
1. 5

4. The use as claimed in either of claims 2 and 3,  
characterized in that the shogaol(s) are in the form of  
a crude extract of a plant of the *Zingiberaceae* family,  
10 advantageously obtained by a process which comprises  
the following step:

a) preparation of the crude extract from fresh  
or dried rhizomes of said plant, by  
maceration of a ground product of these  
15 rhizomes at a temperature of between 10 and  
35°C, followed by one or more extractions of  
this ground product under reflux, or by  
subjecting a ground product of said rhizomes  
to percolation at a temperature of between 10  
20 and 35°C, each of these operations  
(maceration, extractions under reflux and  
percolation) being carried out by means of an  
organic solvent or of a mixture of  
appropriate organic solvents.

25

5. The use as claimed in either of claims 2 and 3,  
characterized in that the shogaol(s) is in the form of  
a purified extract of a plant of the *Zingiberaceae*  
family, advantageously obtained by a process which  
30 comprises step a) as described in claim 3 and the  
following additional steps:

b) purification of the crude extract obtained in  
step a) by subjecting said extract, after

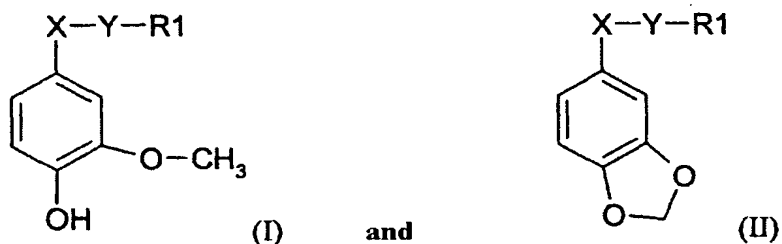
removal of the solvent(s) which it contains and its taking up in water, to one or more countercurrent extractions by means of organic solvent or of a mixture of organic solvents immiscible with water, and if desired,

c) chromatographic separation of the shogaols.

6. The use as claimed in either of claims 4 and 5, characterized in that the plant of the *Zingiberaceae* family is chosen from the species *Alpinia galanga*, *Alpinia officinarum*, *Zingiber officinalis*, *Zingiber cassumunar* and *Zingiber zerumbet*, more advantageously still this includes *Alpinia galanga*.

7. The use as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the vanilloid is formulated for oral administration or in the form of a nasal or mouth spray.

8. The use of a vanilloid corresponding to either one of the following general formulae:



wherein

X represents a linear, saturated, monounsaturated or polyunsaturated, and substituted or unsubstituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl group;

Y is chosen from the groups -C(O)N-, and -C(O)-;

R1 represents a linear, branched or cyclic chain, saturated, monounsaturated or polyunsaturated, and substituted or unsubstituted C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>24</sub> alkyl group;

for the manufacture of a medicament intended for  
treating sleep apnea.